

CHAPTER 83

DISPOSAL OF DEAD BODIES

S. F. 235

AN ACT to amend chapter one hundred forty-one (141), Code 1950, relating to disposal of dead bodies and to make specific provisions for the consent required for autopsies.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter one hundred forty-one (141), Code 1950, is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following: "Post Mortem Ex-
3 aminations. An autopsy or post mortem examination may be per-
4 formed upon the body of a deceased person by a physician or surgeon
5 whenever the written consent thereto has been obtained in any of
6 the following manners:

7 A. By written authorization signed by the deceased during the
8 lifetime.

9 B. By written consent of any party whom the deceased during his
10 lifetime designated by written instrument to take charge of his body
11 for burial.

12 C. By consent of decedent's surviving spouse.

13 D. If the surviving spouse is incompetent, unavailable, or does not
14 claim the body for burial, or if there be no surviving spouse, by con-
15 sent of an adult child, parent, brother or sister of the decedent. The
16 consent of any one of such persons shall be sufficient provided that
17 such autopsy shall not be performed under a consent given by one of
18 such persons if, before such autopsy is performed, any of said others
19 shall object in writing to the physician or surgeon by whom the
20 autopsy is to be performed.

21 E. If none of the above persons is available to claim the body, then
22 by consent of any other relative or friend who assumes custody of the
23 body for burial.

24 The provisions of this Act shall not be applicable to any post mortem
25 or scientific examination performed under authority of section three
26 hundred thirty-nine point twenty-two (339.22), Code 1950, whether
27 made under a summon by a coroner or by the coroner himself if he
28 be a physician."

Approved May 22, 1953.

CHAPTER 84

CEMETERIES

S. F. 71

AN ACT relating to the operation of cemeteries in the state of Iowa, and funds for the perpetual care and maintenance thereof, and the sale of burial space therein, and providing penalties for the violation thereof.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 SECTION 1. Any corporation or other form of organization organ-
2 ized or engaging in the business under the laws of the state of Iowa,
3 or wheresoever organized and engaging in the business in the state